

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims are 98-115 and 117-194. Claim 98 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 116. Accordingly, claim 116 has been canceled, and claim 117, which previously depended on claim 116, has been amended to depend on claim 98 as amended. Claim 125 has been amended to be in independent form and to incorporate the subject matter of claims 98 and 116. Claim 149 has been amended to be in independent form, to incorporate the subject matter of claims 98 and 121, and to correct a clerical error. Claim 111 has also been amended to correct a clerical error. Claims 136, 145, 150 and 159 have been amended to improve their form. New claims 191-194 have been added. New claim 191 incorporates the subject matter of claims 98, 106 and 112. New claim 192 is dependent on new claim 191 and is similar to claim 113. New claim 193 incorporates the subject matter of claims 98 and 121. New claim 194 incorporates the subject matter of claims 125, 98, 106 and 112. Reconsideration is expressly requested.

Claim 149 was objected to as reciting "ration" and claims 125-162 directed to a device including a drill were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for depending on claim 98 which is directed to the drill alone.

Claims 136, 145, 150, and 159 were additionally rejected as being indefinite for reciting "the latter". In response, Applicants have, *inter alia*, amended claim 149 to change "ration" to -- ratio -- as suggested by the Examiner, have amended claims 125 and 149 to be in independent form, and have amended claims 136, 145, 150 and 159 to remove reference to "the latter," which it is respectfully submitted overcomes the Examiner's objection and rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claims 98-111 and 114-115 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Soviet Patent Document 1685628. Claims 125 and 130-135 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Soviet 1685628 in view of Schneider et al. U.S. Patent No. 4, 957,398. The Examiner has also indicated, however, that claims 163-190 are allowed and that claims 112-113 and 116-124 would be allowed if rewritten in independent claim format including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's rejections and in order to expedite prosecution of this case, Applicants have amended claim 98 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 116, have amended claim 125 to incorporate the

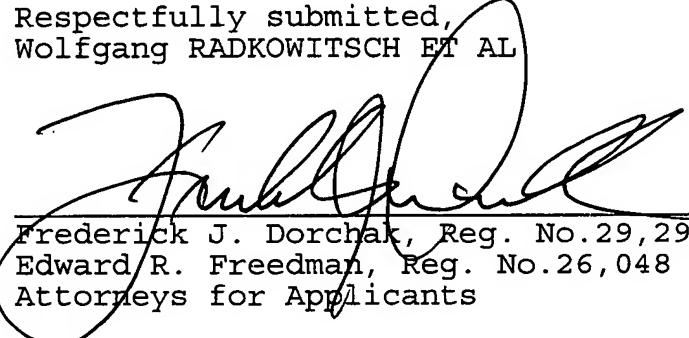
subject matter of claim 116, and have amended claim 149 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 121.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 98 as amended, together with claims 99-111, 114 and 115 which depend directly or indirectly thereon, claim 125 as amended, together with claims 126-148 which depend directly or indirectly thereon, and claim 149 as amended, together with claims 150-162 which depend directly or indirectly thereon, are now in condition for allowance, along with claims 112, 113, 117-124 which the Examiner indicated contained allowable subject matter, and claims 163-190 which the Examiner has allowed.

New claims 191, 193 and 194 incorporate subject matter previously appearing in claim 112 (claims 191 and 194) and claim 121 (claim 193). Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that these claims, together with new claim 192 which depends on new claim 191, are now in condition for allowance as well.

In summary, claims 98, 111, 117, 125, 136, 145, 149, 150 and 159 have been amended, claim 116 has been canceled, and new claims 191-194 have been added. A check in the amount of \$1,256.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee five (5) additional independent claims and three (3) additional dependent claims over those previously paid for. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the claims be allowed and that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,
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Amy Klein

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